

- 1 1. A communications system, comprising:
2 a telephone;
3 a data network;
4 a device coupled to the data network and telephone; and
5 a communications routine executable in the device to control
6 communications of voice data between the telephone and the data network.
- 1 2. The communications system of claim 1, wherein the data network is an
2 Internet protocol network.
- 1 3. The communications system of claim 1, further comprising a remote
2 system coupled to the data network, the remote system adapted to receive voice data over
3 the data network from the communications routine.
- 1 4. The communications system of claim 3, wherein the remote system is
2 adapted to further transmit voice data over the data network to the telephone.
- 1 5. The communications system of claim 1, further comprising a telephone
2 line coupled to the telephone and the device.
- 1 6. The communications system of claim 5, further comprising a first
2 interface unit coupled between the telephone and the telephone line, the first interface
3 unit adapted to establish communication between the telephone and the device in a first
4 mode.
- 1 7. The communications system of claim 6, wherein the first interface unit is
2 adapted to establish a POTS connection between the telephone and the telephone line in a
3 second mode.

1 8. The communications system of claim 1, wherein the communications
2 routine is executable to receive a voice command from a user through the telephone to
3 place a telephone call over the data network.

1 9. The communications system of claim 1, wherein the communications
2 routine is executable to receive a remote phone call over the data network.

1 10. The communications system of claim 1, wherein the device includes
2 layers to transfer voice data to and from the data network.

1 11. The communications system of claim 1, further comprising a telephone
2 network and at least another telephone, the telephones coupled to the telephone network.

1 12. A system for connection to a data network, comprising:
2 an interface circuit capable of being coupled to a telephone network
3 having a telephone; and
4 a controller adapted to communicate voice data between the telephone and
5 the data network.

1 13. The system of claim 12, wherein the controller is adapted to receive a
2 voice command from the telephone and to respond to the voice command.

1 14. The system of claim 12, wherein the controller is adapted to perform voice
2 communication with a remote system over the data network.

1 15. The system of claim 14, wherein the controller is adapted to perform a
2 POTS telephone communication over the telephone network.

1 16. The system of claim 12, wherein the controller is adapted to receive a
2 telephone call over the data network.

1 17. The system of claim 12, wherein the controller is adapted to convert the
2 voice data into an Internet protocol format for sending over the data network.

1 18. The system of claim 12, wherein the controller includes software.

1 19. A method of placing network telephone calls, the method comprising:
2 establishing a connection with a data network;
3 receiving voice data from a telephone; and
4 transferring the voice data from the telephone to the data network.

1 20. The method of claim 19, wherein transferring the voice data includes
2 transferring voice data over an Internet protocol data network.

1 21. The method of claim 19, wherein receiving the voice data includes
2 receiving the voice data over a telephone line from the telephone.

1 22. The method of claim 19, further comprising receiving a telephone call
2 over the data network.

1 23. The method of claim 22, further comprising issuing an indication to
2 activate a notification that a telephone call has been received.

1 24. The method of claim 23, further comprising activating a ringer associated
2 with the telephone.

1 25. A system for communicating with a data network, comprising:
2 a telephone line;
3 a telephone coupled to the telephone line;
4 a device adapted to receive voice from the telephone line and including a
5 controller adapted to communicate voice data between the telephone and the data
6 network.

1 26. The system of claim 25, wherein the controller is further adapted to
2 perform a POTS telephone call on the telephone line concurrently with communicating
3 voice data between the telephone and the data network.

1 27. The system of claim 26, wherein voice data associated with POTS
2 telephone call is different from voice data associated with the communication between
3 the telephone and data network.

1 28. The system of claim 26 further comprising an interface circuit coupled to
2 the device, the interface circuit including a first unit adapted to receive a carrier signal on
3 the telephone line carrying the voice data, and a second unit adapted to receive a
4 baseband signal over the telephone line.

1 29. An article including one or more machine-readable storage media
2 containing instructions for controlling communications between a telephone system and a
3 data network, the instruction when executed causing the system to:
4 receive voice data transferred from a telephone over a communications
5 line;
6 convert the voice data into a predetermined format; and
7 transmit the voice data in the predetermined format to the data network.